Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food

Crop Report

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Crop Report for April 30, 2006

Saskatchewan farmers have seeded three per cent of the 2006 crop, according to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food's weekly crop report.

The five-year (2001-05) average shows that two per cent of the crop is normally seeded at this time. Thirteen per cent of the crop is now planted in the southwest, two per cent is planted in the southeast, and less than one half of one per cent is planted elsewhere in the province.

Topsoil moisture conditions are reported as adequate across the majority of the grainbelt. While areas of surplus moisture are slowly decreasing, the northeast and east central regions still report more than 50 per cent of the land suffering from surplus moisture.

The Stubble Subsoil Moisture Map for May 1, 2006 indicates that most of the grain belt (80 per cent) has good to excellent subsoil moisture going into the 2006 cropping season. However, areas within the east central and northeast regions have surplus subsoil moisture due to significant rain in the fall of 2005, and abundant snowfall this past winter. Areas with poor to good subsoil moisture conditions are found in the southwest region, which had little winter precipitation. Producers in the southwest will need rainfall within the next few weeks in order to carry the crops, pasture and hay land.

Pre-seeding field work continues across the province. Progress is minimal in areas of surplus moisture.

Harvesting of crop left in the field over winter, (one per cent of the 2005 crop) was reported in central and northern regions.

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Seeding Progress in SK per cent seeded

	All Crops
Apr 30/06	3
5-year Avg. (2001-05)	2
May 1/05	3
May 2/04	6
Apr 27/03	0
Apr 28/02	0
Apr 29/01	1

1 Year Ago

Saskatchewan farmers had seeded 3% of the 2005 crop.

Cool weather halted field work across the province.

The May 1, 2005, Stubble Subsoil Moisture Map showed most of the grainbelt was in good to excellent subsoil moisture condition. Pockets of dry areas were scattered from the northwest to the southeast.

Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

CANADA ~ SASKATCHEWAN
Crop Insurance

South eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 1, 2, & 3ase)

Last week, the southeast had sunny, warm weather with showers in some areas. An average of 3 mm of precipitation was reported, ranging from an average low of 2 mm reported in Crop District (CD) 2, to an average high of 5 mm reported in CD 3ase.

Two per cent of the crop has been seeded in the southeast. CD 1a reports 5% seeded, while CD 2b reports just under 1% seeded. Farmers were seeding peas and wheat. Early seeded crops were germinating in CD 1a.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved last week with 24% of reporters rating moisture as surplus, compared to 48% last week. On hay and pasture land, moisture conditions also improved with 76% of reporters indicating they have adequate moisture, compared with 69% last week.

Subsoil moisture improved from November 1, 2005 in many areas of the southeast, largely due to a late April rain. Most areas of the southeast have good to very good amounts of available soil water. There are some localized areas of poor to fair ratings in the Estevan, Gladmar, and Weyburn areas.

Fieldwork slowed in some areas due to wet field conditions. Farmers were harrowing, applying chemical and fertilizer, cultivating, picking rocks, moving bales off the fields, fencing, and spraying. Weed growth is heavy.

Winter crops generally look good, though areas of drown-out have been reported.

Large gopher populations were reported in CD 1b.

Cattle were being processed and turned out to summer pastures. Localized areas in CDs 2a and 3ase would like to see rain for the pastures before too long.

South western Saskatchewan (CDs 3asw, 3an, 3b, & 4)

This past week in the southwest started cool, with some snow flurries, but warmed up later in the week. An average of 2 mm of precipitation was reported, with an average of 5 mm reported in CD 3asw.

Almost 13% of the crop has been seeded in the southwest. Crop District 4a is almost one-third seeded, while CD 3an is 2% seeded. Crops being seeded include peas, canola, durum, barley, mustard, chickpeas, and lentils.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land are drier with 77% of crop reporters rating moisture conditions as adequate, compared to 85% last week. Topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land are also drier, with 62% of reporters rating moisture conditions as adequate, compared with 82% last week. The driest areas are in CDs 3bs and 4a. Some soil crusting was reported in CD3bn. Many areas would like to see a good rain soon.

Many areas of the southwest improved in the amount of available soil water from November 1, 2005. There is still an area of very poor to poor availability in the Consul-Eastend-Admiral areas as well as the McCord-Wood Mountain areas, but that area is smaller than it was last fall.

Winter annual weeds are showing strong growth. Heavy gopher populations were reported in CDs 3asw and 3ba.

In addition to seeding, farmers were applying chemical and fertilizer, picking rocks, and spraying. Cattle were being worked and moved out to summer pasture. Fall-seeded crops were emerging nicely.

East central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 5 & 6a)

The east central region had a generally warm, sunny week. An average of 4 mm of precipitation was reported.

There has been some seeding activity in the east central region – some lentils and peas were seeded.

There was some combining of 2005 crop this past week.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved slightly from last week. Fifty-three per cent of reporters rate topsoil moisture as surplus compared with 76% last week. On hay and pasture land, topsoil moisture conditions also improved as 65% of reporters say they have adequate moisture, up from 47% last week.

Compared to the November 1, 2005 Stubble Subsoil Moisture map, the May 1, 2006 map shows an improvement. The entire east central region falls in the very good level of available soil water – though as indicated in the previous paragraph, at least half of that land is in a moisture surplus situation.

Farmers hope to get a good burn-off provided that they can get at the strong weed growth in a timely manner. There was minimal field work last week – fertilizing,

harrowing, chemical application, rock picking, draining sloughs, and spraying. Farmers were also cleaning seed and readying machinery while waiting for fields to dry.

Cattle were being moved to summer pastures. Weed growth is heavy on some fields. Winter wheat crops appeared off to a good start. Some varieties of barley and oat seed were in short supply in CD 6a.

At this time, it is estimated that 10 to 15% of the land will not be seeded south of Humboldt due to standing water.

West central Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 6b & 7)

The west central area generally had good drying weather during the past week. An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation was reported.

Less than one half of one per cent of the crop has been seeded in the west central region. Peas, wheat, and canola have been seeded.

Some farmers were able to combine some of the 2005 crop this past week, though getting stuck was a problem for some.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land have improved, with 32% of reporters rating moisture as surplus, compared with 43% last week. Topsoil moisture conditions on hay and pasture land also improved with 82% of reporters rating topsoil moisture as adequate, compared to 77% last week.

The May 1, 2006 map of the west central region shows an improvement over the November 1, 2005 map. Subsoil moisture conditions are rated as good to very good across the region. However, some areas remain in a surplus condition, as indicated in the previous paragraph.

Spring fieldwork being done in the area includes harrowing, chemical and fertilizer application, rock picking, spraying, and straw burning. Soft roads make it hard to move equipment and supplies. Some farmers are facing rutted fields and the challenges of preparing a proper seed bed.

Weed growth is heavy. Cattle are being moved out to summer pastures.

North eastern Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 8 & 9ae)

It was generally warm and sunny in the northeast this past week. An average of 1 mm of precipitation was reported.

There has been a small amount of seeding on light land in CD 8a.

There was some combining of the 2005 crop near the end of the week.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved during the last week as the area of surplus moisture decreased. Fifty-seven per cent of reporters rated moisture as surplus, compared with 77% last week. On hay and pasture land, 65% of reporters say they have adequate moisture, an increase from 36% last week.

The May 1, 2006 Stubble Subsoil Moisture map shows the entire northeast in a situation of very good available soil water. The reality is that there is surplus subsoil moisture due to a wet fall in 2005 and abundant snowfall over the winter.

In some areas, farmers are holding off buying seed and fertilizer. Several suppliers say very little product has moved so far.

Some fieldwork is getting underway, including cultivating, harrowing, fertilizer application, and crop burning.

Cattle have been moved out to pasture, but are still being fed.

North western Saskatchewan (Crop Districts 9aw & 9b)

The past week was generally warm in the northwest. An average of less than ½ mm of precipitation was reported.

One half of one per cent of the crop has been seeded in the northwest, with all of the seeding activity in CD 9b. Peas were being seeded.

Combining of the 2005 crop started last week.

Topsoil moisture conditions on crop land improved slightly during the past week with 17% of reporters rating moisture as surplus, compared with 20% last week. On hay and pasture land, 83% of reporters say they have adequate moisture, compared with 90% last week. The balance report surplus conditions. Some areas in the northwest part of CD 9b would like to see a rain to help settle the dust.

On May 1, 2006, the region showed generally very good subsoil moisture conditions throughout. As indicated in the previous paragraph, some of that land is in a surplus moisture situation.

Farmers were harrowing, fertilizing, applying chemical, controlling gophers, and seeding fall rye for summer pastures.

Weekly Rainfall Summary

(in millimeters)

for the week ending April 29, 2006

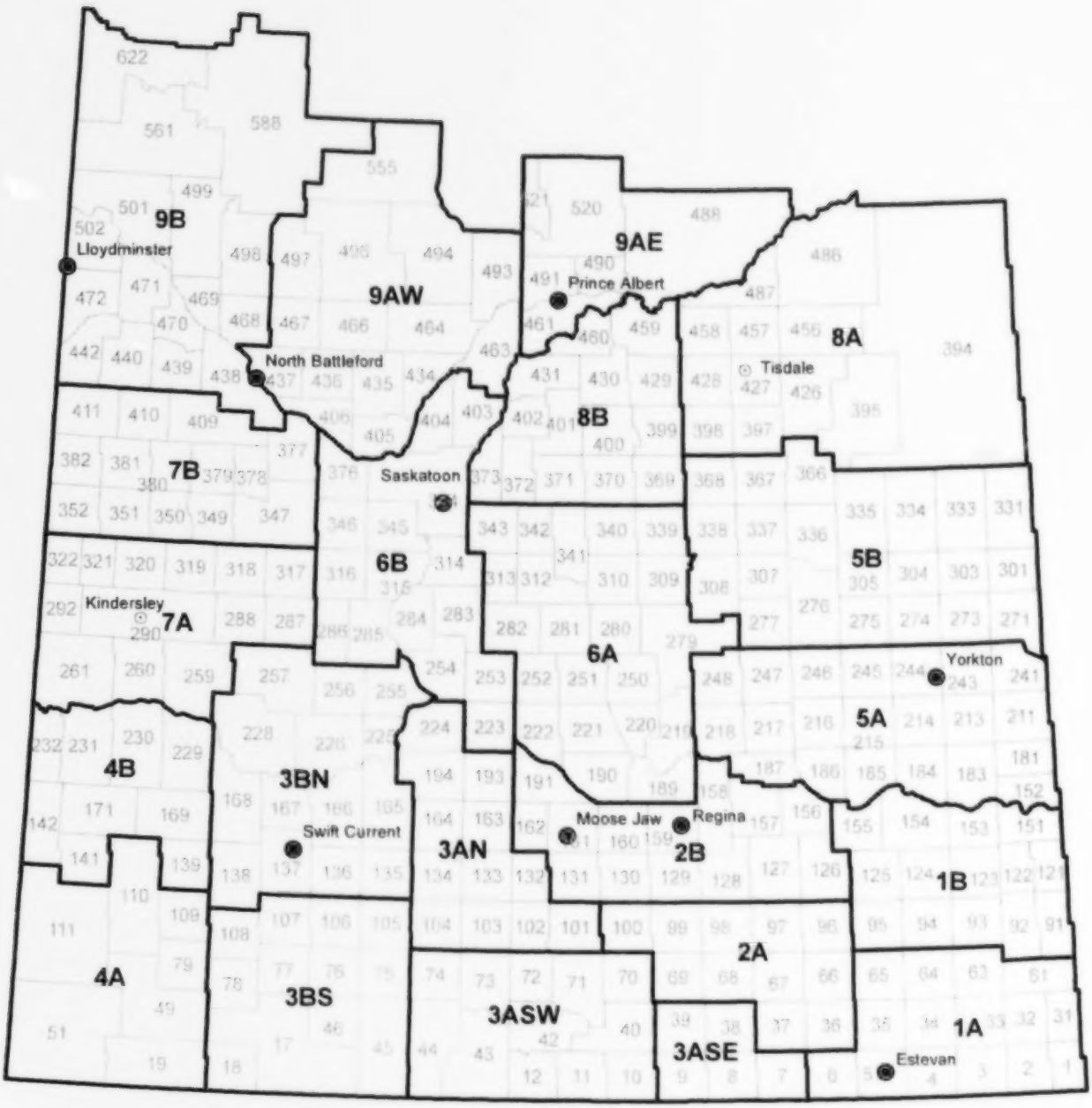
Crop Dist.	Municipality No.	Name	Past Week	Since April 1
1A	1	Argyle	5	50
	2	Mount Pleasant	3	64
	3 B	Enniskillen	3	62
	32	Reciprocity	2	42
	33 A	Moose Creek	2	45
	33 B	Moose Creek	6	51
	61	Antler	2	46
	63 B	Moose Mountain	4	51
	64	Brock	7	82
	65	Tecumseh	5	72
1B	91	Maryfield	5	52
	92	Walpole	NIL	39
	93 B	Wawken	4	67
	95	Golden West	4	97
	121	Moosomin	6	78
	122	Martin	6	78
	123	Silverwood	3	71
	124	Kingsley	3	66
	125	Chester	NIL	90
	151 A	Rocanville	3	89
	151 B	Rocanville	3	98
	154	Elcapo	4	60
	155	Wolseley	6	122
2A	36	Cymri	5	77
	66	Griffin	0	64
	67	Weyburn	2	80
	68	Brokenshell	NIL	69
	96	Fillmore	2	79
	97	Wellington	2	66
	99	Caledonia	2	84
2B	126	Montmartre	NIL	68
	127	Francis	1	78
	129	Bratt's Lake	3	60
	131	Baildon	4	59
	156 A	Indian Head	1	87
	156 B	Indian Head	2	91
	157	South Qu'appelle	NIL	83
	158	Edenwold	NIL	71
	160	Pense	NIL	35
	161	Moose Jaw	7	84
	191	Marquis	NIL	67
3ASE	8	Lake Alma	8	79
	9	Surprise Valley	11	75
	38 A	Laurier	4	77
	38 B	Laurier	3	55
	39 A	The Gap	3	68
	39 B	The Gap	3	63
3ASW	10	Happy Valley	TR	51
	12	Poplar Valley	2	37
	40	Bengough	4	53
	42	Willow Bunch	13	62
	43 A	Old Post	8	42
	43 B	Old Post	4	38
	44	Waverley	9	71
	70	Key West	NIL	67
	71 A	Excel	8	63
	71 B	Excel	NIL	54
	73 A	Stonehenge	10	73
3AN	101 B	Terrell	2	52
	102	Lake Johnston	6	61
	103	Sutton	NIL	63
	132	Hillsborough	8	65
	134	Shamrock	NIL	78
	164	Chaplin	7	33
	193	Eyebrow	3	53
	194	Enfield	10	16
3BS	17 A	Val Marie	5	29
	17 B	Val Marie	NIL	36
	45	Mankota	7	63
	46	Glen Mcpherson	8	48
	75 A	Pinto Creek	3	53
	75 B	Pinto Creek	5	60
	76 A	Auvergne	1	26
	76 B	Auvergne	NIL	33
	77	Wise Creek	NIL	19
	78 A	Grassy Creek	NIL	14
	78 B	Grassy Creek	NIL	15
	78 C	Grassy Creek	NIL	17
	105	Glenbain	NIL	63
	106	Whiska Creek	NIL	25
	107	Lac Pelletier	NIL	7
	108	Bone Creek	NIL	19
3BN	135	Lawtonia	3	47
	136	Coulee	NIL	26
	138	Webb	1	12
	166	Excelsior	NIL	9
	167	Sask. Landing	NIL	25
	228 A	Lacadena	NIL	17
	228 B	Lacadena	NIL	26
	257	Monet	NIL	14
4A	19	Frontier	NIL	32
	49 B	White Valley	NIL	6
	51	Reno	NIL	13
	79	Arlington	NIL	2
	109	Carmichael	NIL	8
	110	Piapot	NIL	2
	111 A	Maple Creek	NIL	8
	111 B	Maple Creek	NIL	5
4B	139	Gull Lake	NIL	10
	141	Big Stick	NIL	7
	142	Enterprise	NIL	13
	169	Pittville	NIL	2
	2[illegible]	Happyland	NIL	16
	2[illegible]	Deer Forks	NIL	12
5A	[illegible]2	Spy Hill	NIL	78
	183	Fertile Belt	5	88
	184 A	Grayson	5	48
	185	Mcleod	1	85
	186	Abernethy	2	83
	187	North Qu'appelle	NIL	74
	211	Churchbridge	6	49
	213	Saltcoats	2	54
	216	Tullymet	7	84
	217 B	Lipton	0	62
	241	Calder	3	52
	243	Wallace	5	45
	245 A	Garry	3	80
	245 B	Garry	4	83
	246	Ituna Bon Accord	11	74
	247	Kellross	7	89
	248	Touchwood	3	46
5B	271	Cote	2	61
	273	Sliding Hills	TR	39
	275 A	Insinger	28	116
	275 B	Insinger	2	69
	276	Foam Lake	8	69
	277	Emerald	4	66
	304	Buchanan	4	59
	307	Elfros	TR	74
	308	Big Quill	NIL	42
	335	Hazel Dell	7	74
	336	Sasman	6	65
	338	Lakeside	1	40
	366 A	Kelvington	TR	32
	366 B	Kelvington	TR	33
	367	Ponass Lake	4	42
6A	189	Lumsden	7	62
	190 A	Dufferin	3	45
	190 B	Dufferin	2	66
	190 C	Dufferin	5	52
	219 B	Longlaketon	4	58
	219 C	Longlaketon	6	56
	220	Mckillop	5	58
	221	Sarnia	4	57
	222	Craik	TR	48
	251	Big Arm	NIL	39
	252	Arm River	5	43
	279 B	Mount Hope	3	50
	280	Wreford	5	38
	282	Mccraney	2	19
	309	Prairie Rose	2	59
	312	Morris	1	28
	339 B	Leroy	NIL	41
	340 A	Wolverine	1	40
	340 B	Wolverine	NIL	38
	341	Viscount	TR	14
	343	Blucher	3	34
6B	254	Loreburn	1	10
	283	Rosedale	TR	10
	284	Rudy	NIL	15
	285	Fertile Valley	NIL	24
	286	Milden	NIL	7
	344	Corman Park	NIL	10
	345	Vanscoy	NIL	23
	346	Perdue	NIL	44
	376 A	Eagle Creek	1	20
	376 B	Eagle Creek	4	7
	404	Laird	NIL	6
7A	259	Snipe Lake	NIL	13
	287	St. Andrews	NIL	14
	288	Pleasant Valley	NIL	26
	292	Milton	NIL	27
	317 B	Marriott	NIL	28
	317 C	Marriott	NIL	30
	318 A	Mountain View	NIL	32
	318 B	Mountain View	NIL	24
	320	Oakdale	NIL	41
	321	Prairiedale	NIL	53
	322	Antelope Park	NIL	32
7B	347 A	Biggar	NIL	14
	350 A	Mariposa	NIL	22
	350 B	Mariposa	NIL	36
	351	Progress	NIL	30
	352	Heart's Hill	NIL	30
	377	Glenside	6	11
	378 A	Rosemount	NIL	22
	378 B	Rosemount	NIL	11
	379	Reford	NIL	15
	382	Eye Hill	TR	15
	409	Buffalo	NIL	10
	410	Round Valley	NIL	5
8A	395	Porcupine	NIL	35
	397	Barrier Valley	TR	32
	398	Pleasantdale	NIL	12
	428	Star City	NIL	11
	456	Arborfield	2	26
	457 A	Connaught	NIL	14
	457 B	Connaught	NIL	4
	458	Willow Creek	NIL	6
	486	Moose Range	NIL	16
	487	Nipawin	NIL	10
8B	369	St. Peter	4	39
	370	Humboldt	3	21
	371	Bayne	2	13
	373	Aberdeen	1	11
	400	Three Lakes	NIL	12
	401	Hoodoo	NIL	TR
	402	Fish Creek	NIL	6
	429 B	Flett's Springs	1	10
	430	Invergordon	TR	3
	459	Kinistino	NIL	6
9AE	461	Prince Albert	NIL	6
	488	Torch River	NIL	6
	520	Paddockwood	NIL	6
9AW	406	Mayfield	NIL	4
	435	Redberry	NIL	4
	463	Duck Lake	NIL	3
	464	Leask	NIL	3
	467	Round Hill	NIL	TR
	467 B	Round Hill	NIL	NIL
	493	Shellbrook	NIL	N/A
	494	Canwood	NIL	3
	496	Spiritwood	4	4
	497	Medstead	NIL	1
9B	438 A	Battle River	NIL	1
	438 B	Battle River	TR	TR
	440	Hillsdale	TR	3
	468	Meota	TR	TR
	472	Wilton	NIL	3
	498 A	Parkdale	2	2
	498 B	Parkdale	NIL	NIL
	499	Mervin	1	2
	501 B	Frenchman Butte	NIL	TR
	501 C	Frenchman Butte	NIL	NIL
	502	Britannia	NIL	3
	561	Loon Lake	NIL	NIL
	588 A	Meadow Lake	NIL	NIL
	588 B	Meadow Lake	NIL	NIL
	588 C	Meadow Lake	NIL	TR
	588 D	Meadow Lake	1	2
	622	Beaver River	TR	TR

These precipitation amounts represent point locations within each municipality and do not necessarily reflect the whole R.M.

* incomplete

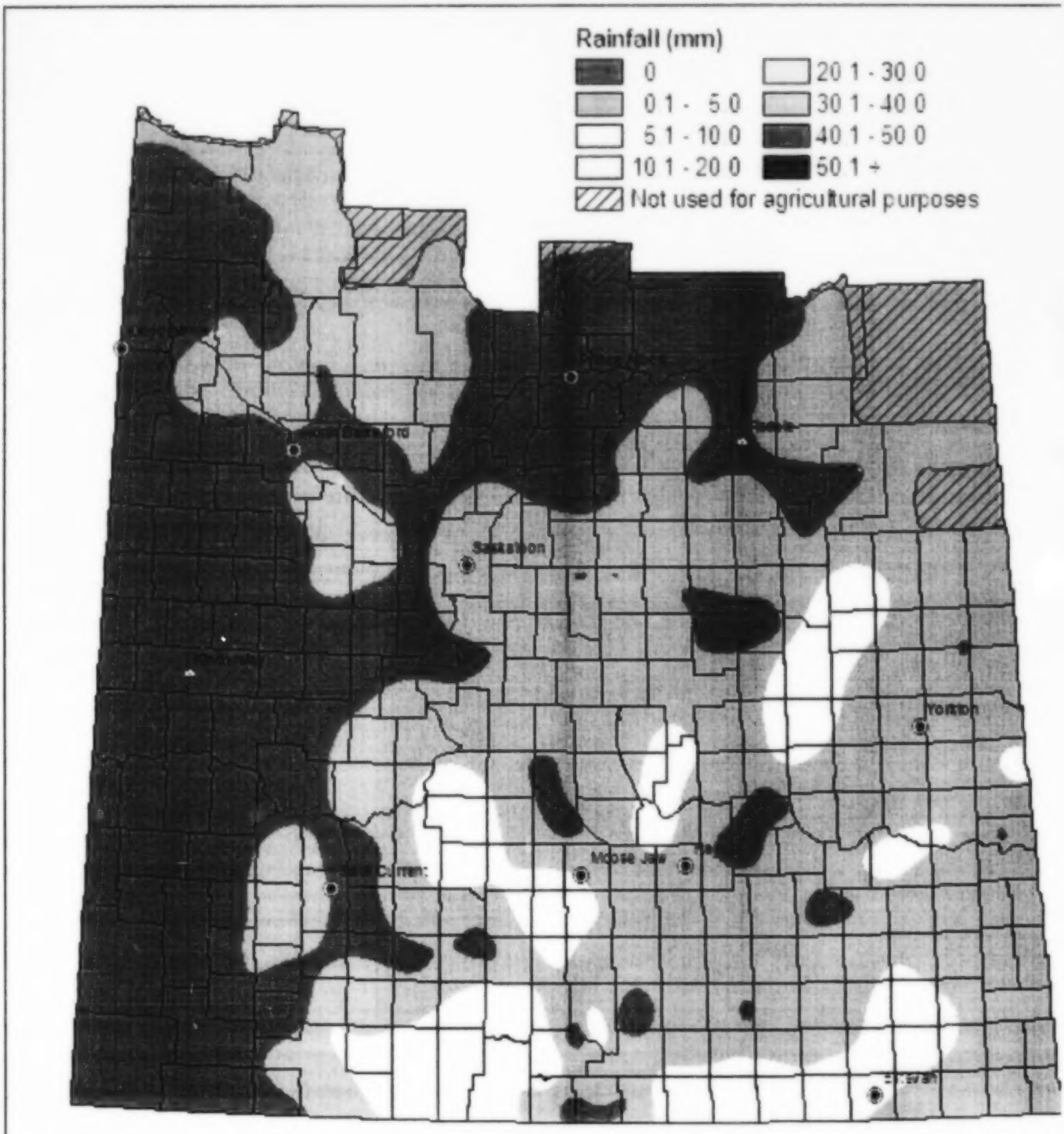
Municipality No: A, B, C, and D - more than one reporter

Crop Districts
and
Rural Municipalities



Weekly Rainfall

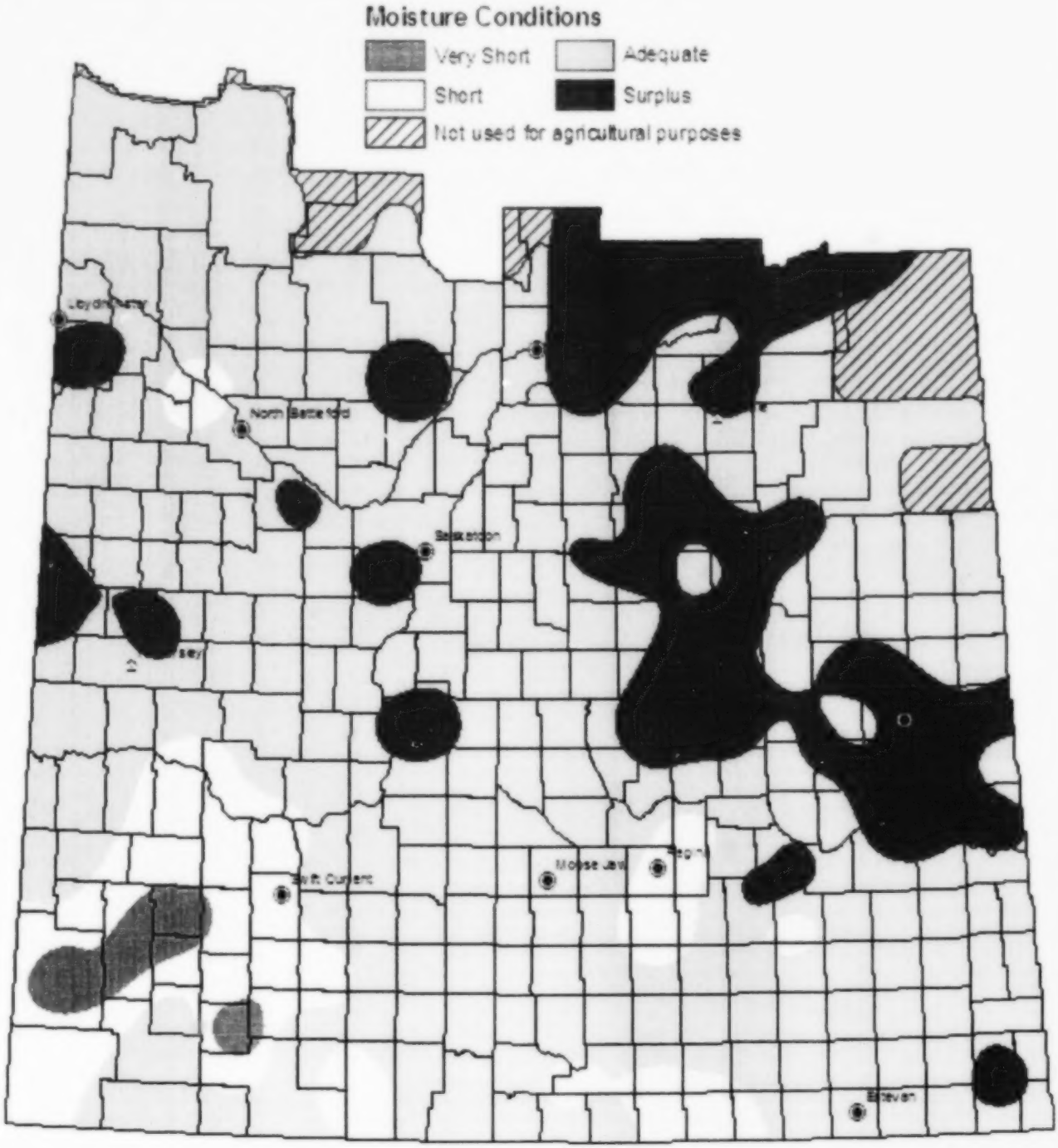
for the week ending April 29, 2006



Saskatchewan

Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

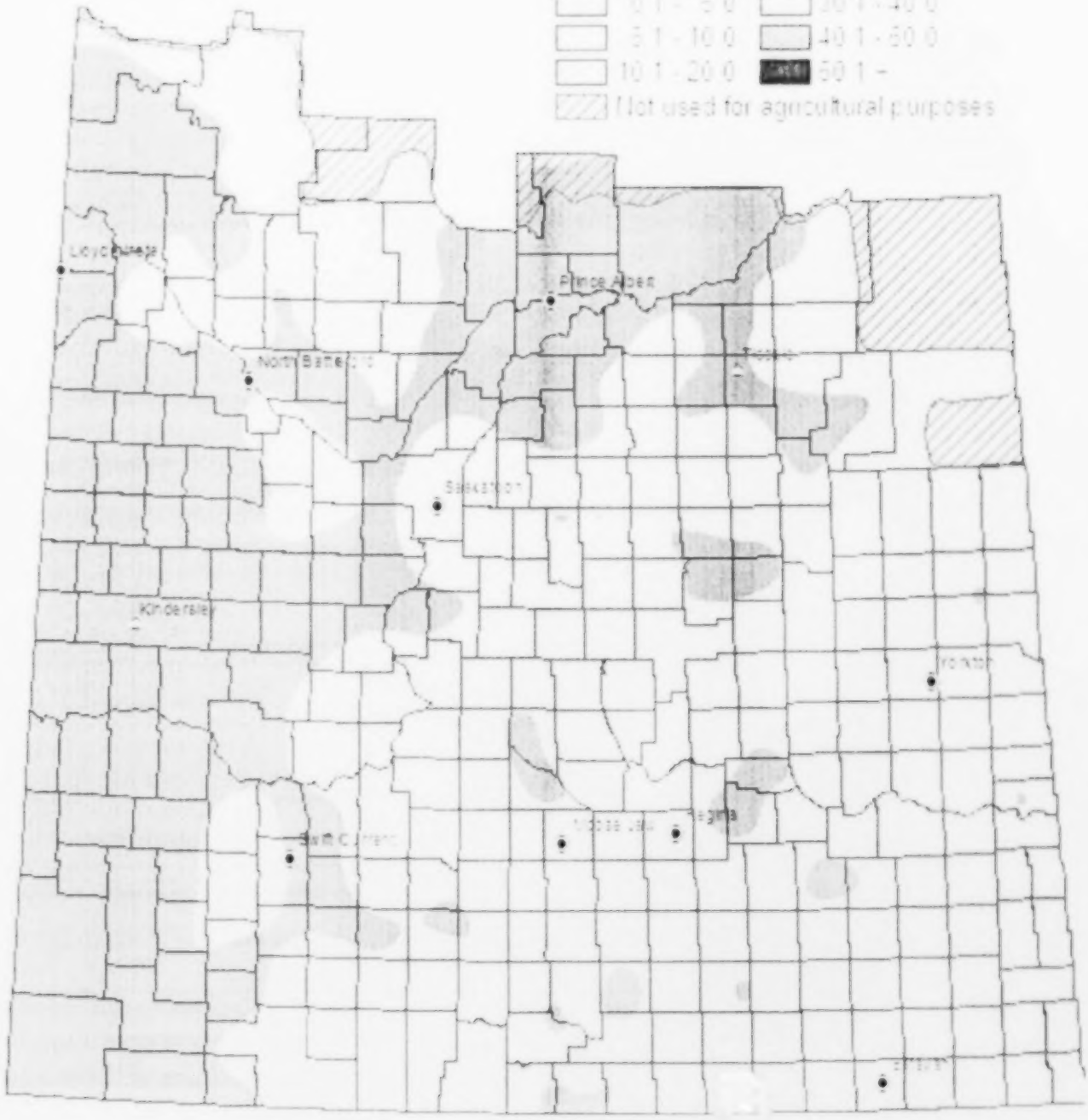
April 30, 2006



Saskatchewan

Weekly Rainfall

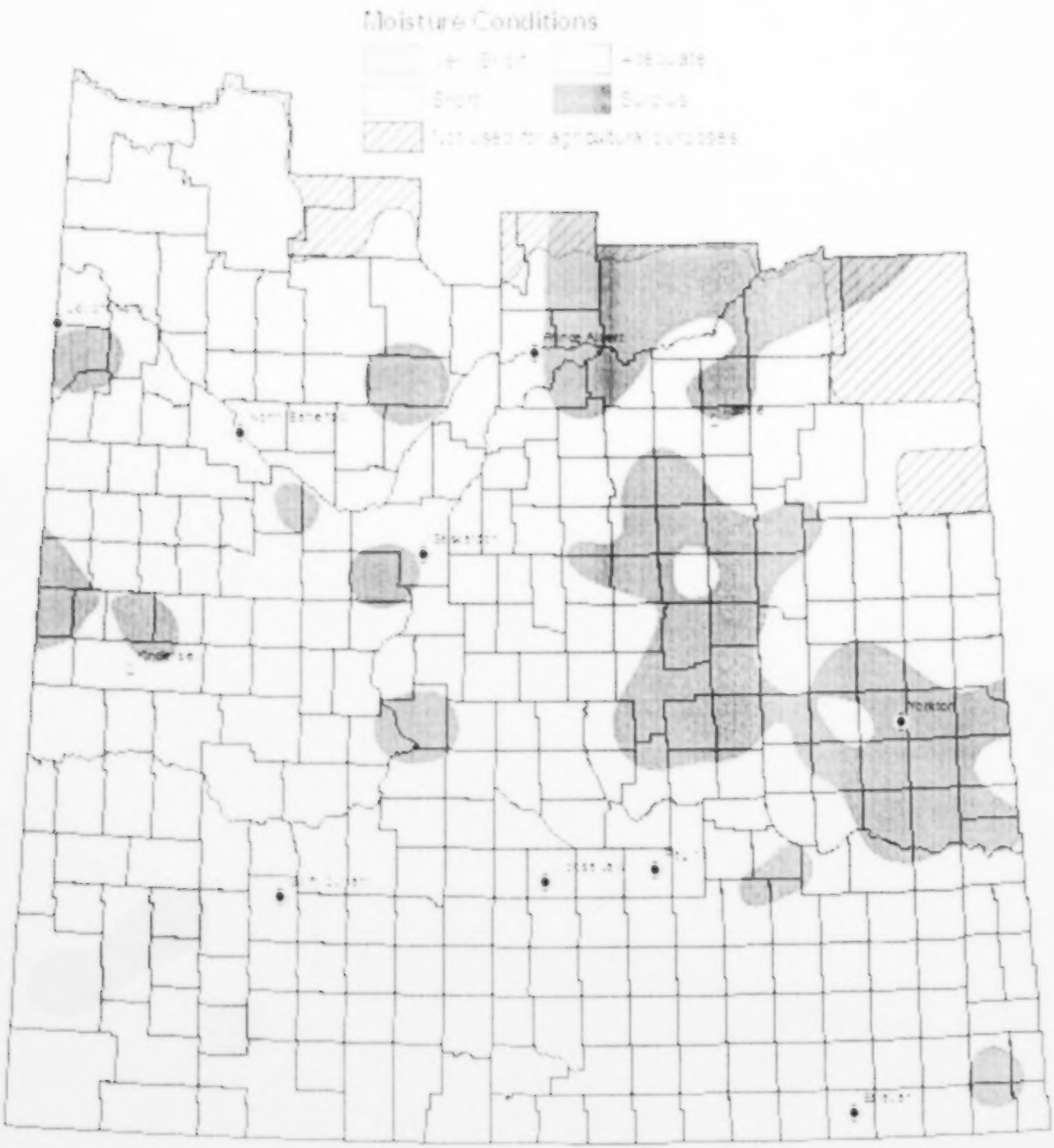
for the week ending April 29, 2006



Saskatchewan

Hay and Pasture Topsoil Moisture Conditions

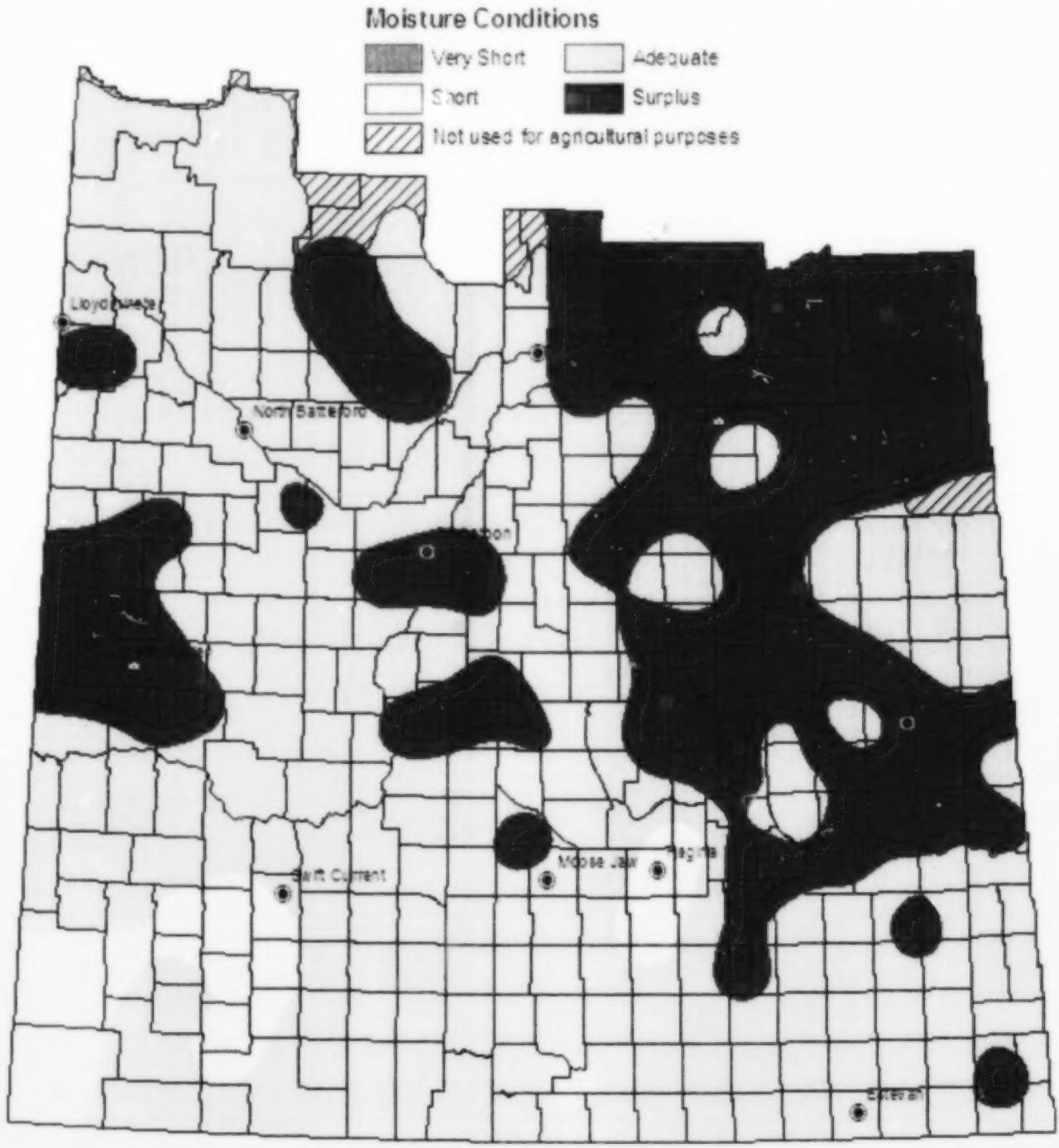
April 30, 2006



Saskatchewan

Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions

April 30, 2006

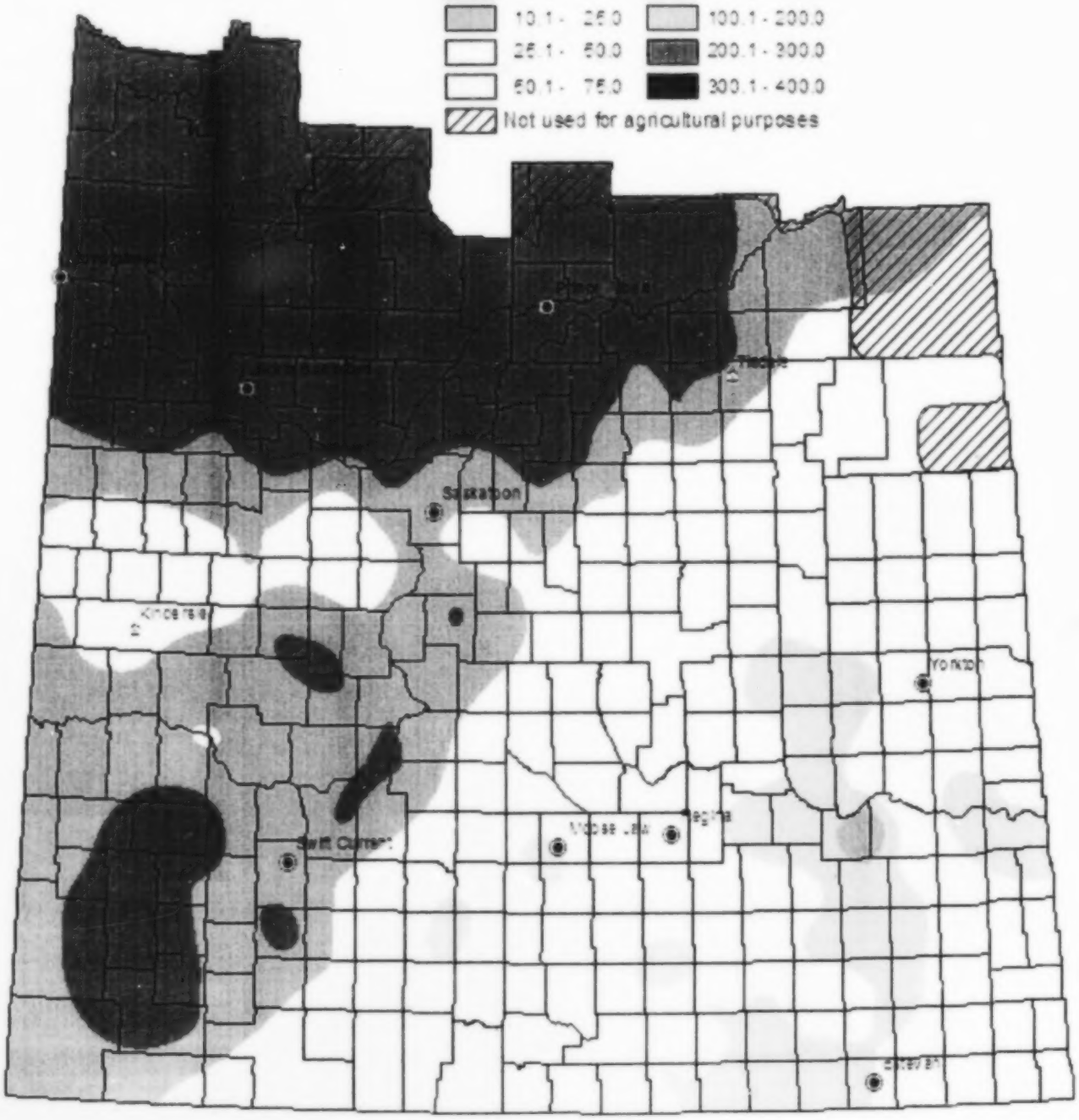


Saskatchewan

Cumulative Rainfall

From: April 1, 2006

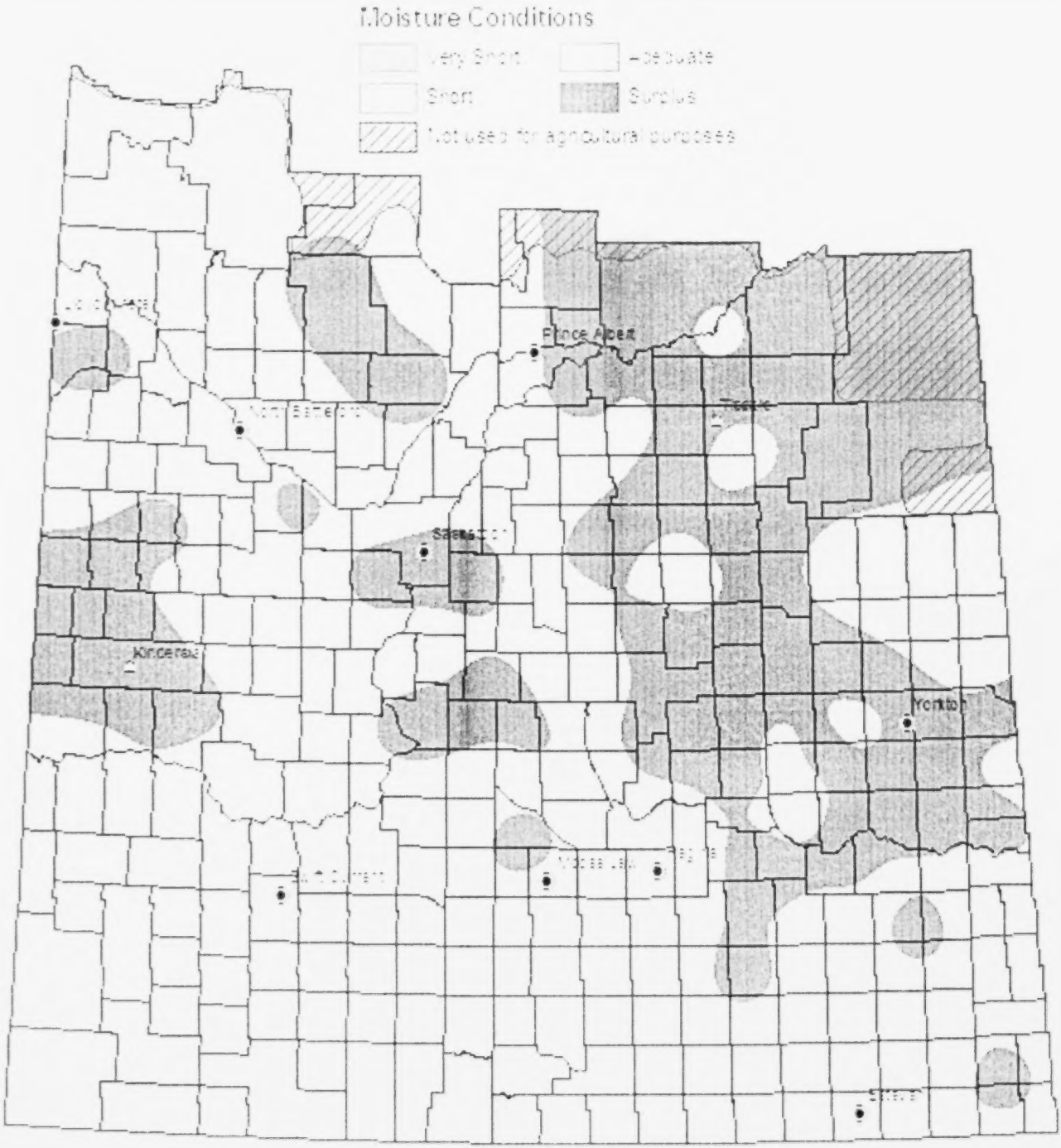
To: April 29, 2006



Saskatchewan

Crop Land Topsoil Moisture Conditions

April 30, 2006

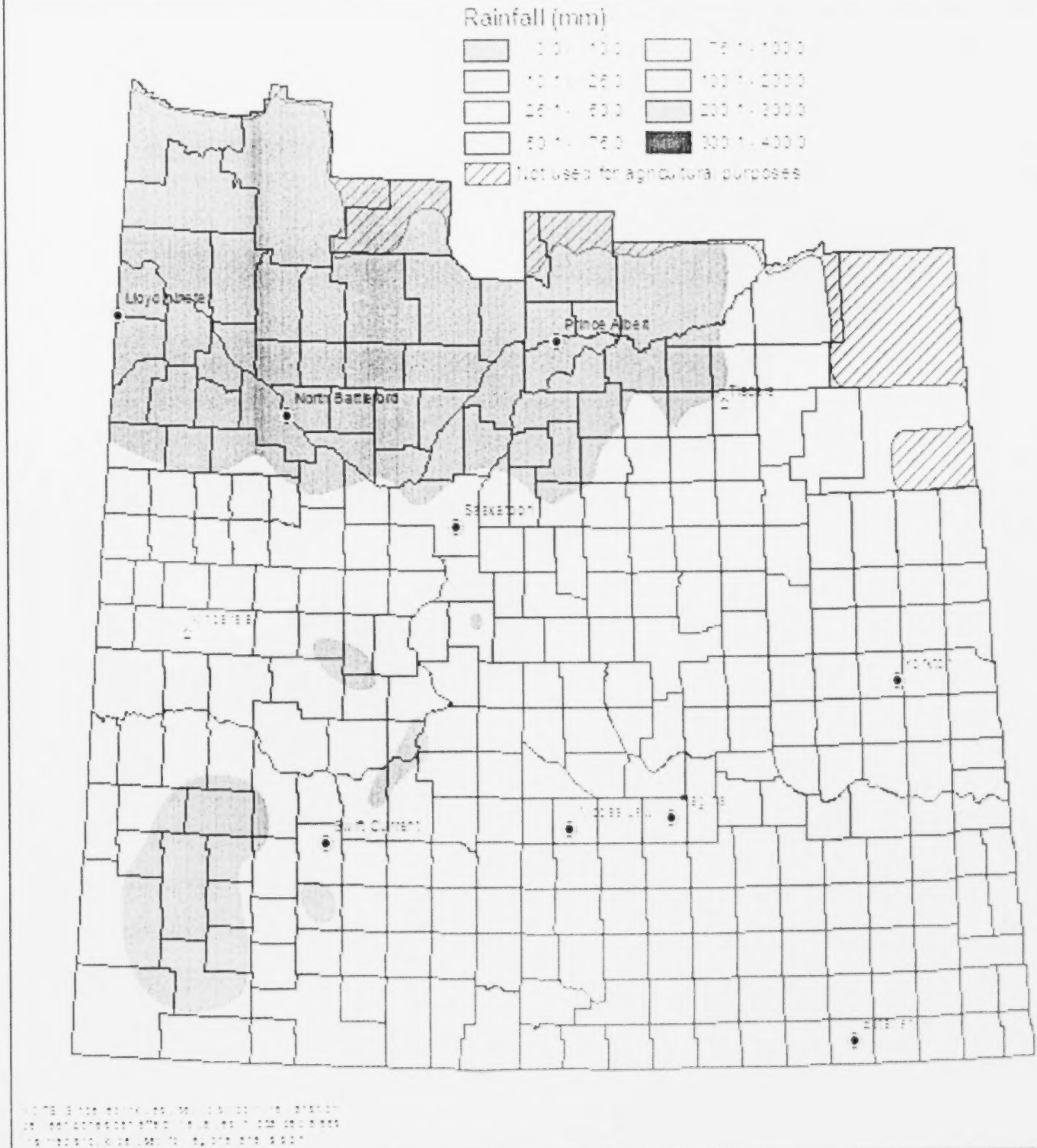


Saskatchewan

Cumulative Rainfall

From: April 1, 2006

To: April 29, 2006



Saskatchewan